



REMARKS

Claims 143 and 153 are clarified and, thus, claims 143-161 are in this application.

Claims 143-161, as originally presented, were patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and are in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims are made, not for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103, or 112, but simply to clarify the invention and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

All the claims (claims 143-161) were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klingler et al. (Patent No. 5,404,316) in view of Langford et al. (Patent No. 5,206,929).

Independent claim 143 recites:

An editing system, for producing a resultant clip from a plurality of clips, comprising:

a plurality of modules for selectively performing at least one of editing, composing, or applying a special effect to said plurality of clips;

managing means for managing information pertaining to relations between the resultant clip and the plurality of clips, said information at least indicating from which of said plurality of clips said resultant clip is produced;

display means for displaying a table indicating individual resultant clips and said information pertaining to relations between each resultant clip and the plurality of clips,

said table including rows and columns, each row including information for a respective resultant clip, a first column of said row including an identification code for said resultant clip, a second column of said row indicating from which of said plurality of clips said resultant clip is produced; and

control means for controlling said plurality of modules based on said information managed by said managing means.

Independent claim 153 recites similar limitations, and, therefore, all the claims present in this application recite the foregoing limitations.

Modern video editing requires repeated processing of, for example, hundreds of materials. However, conventional editing systems are unequipped to store, manage and otherwise keep track of a complex history of edit operations performed in producing the many resultant clips. One such conventional system purports to track edit operations by providing, for example, a confusing display of assorted "view windows" having inconsistent formats.

The present invention solves these problems by managing the information pertaining to relations between the various clips in a well-organized database. Applicants' editing system provides, for example, convenient display of the database contents in an easily-understood tabular format of columns and rows. A user thereby effortlessly tracks relations between the various clips, and the complex edit history.

The table in Fig. 13 shows database entries of clip management data for the clips illustrated in Fig. 4. The "Attribute" entry, for example, in the third column of the table, indicates whether the clip is a material clip produced from source video data, or a resultant clip produced by editing one or more material clips.

Consider, as a further example, the entries for the clip FC-008, in the eighth row of the table. Data entered in the first, third and fifth columns, respectively, indicate that clip FC-008 is a resultant clip (Attribute of "F") having Clip ID Code "008" and reproduction period "4:47:00." The Child Link ID Codes, "003," "002" and "001," in the seventh column of the table, further specify that FC-008 is a resultant clip produced by editing three material clips, MC-001, MC-002, and MC-003. The Parent Link ID Code, "010," in the sixth column, indicates that FC-008 is also used to produce resultant clip FC-010 (see Application, line 11 at page 74, to line 11 at page 77).

Klingler (the reference cited by the Examiner) discloses, in Fig. 2, a “dataflow diagram” for a representative movie processed using an editing device. This “datagraph” depicts the operations (or steps) in the creation of a movie. At each step, the user, via the interface, identifies one or more input movies, a key frame (e.g., the first frame of a clip), and control parameters required for a selected operation. The system then implements the selected operation, generates an output movie, and, if desired, saves that output movie as a new clip.

Although the datagraph depicts the operations performed on a clip and the “interrelationship between the steps in the process...,” such datagraph does not illustrate such interrelationships in a format even remotely resembling a table comprised of columns and rows, as claimed in the present invention. Klingler nowhere discloses, in particular, “displaying a table indicating individual resultant clips and said information pertaining to relations between each resultant clip and the plurality of clips, said table including rows and columns, each row including information for a respective resultant clip, a first column of said row including an identification code for said resultant clip, a second column of said row indicating from which of said plurality of clips said resultant clip is produced...”

Although Langford (the other reference cited by the Examiner) depicts, in Figs. 9-16, various displays illustrating operations performed on “edits,” none of the displays illustrate relations amongst such edits in a tabular format.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early notice to this effect is respectfully solicited.

Statements appearing above in respect to the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of the undersigned attorney and, in the event the Examiner

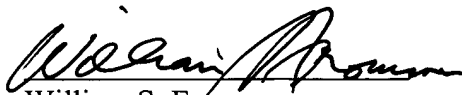
disagrees with any of such opinions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the references providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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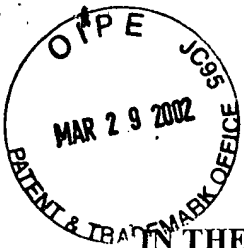
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 143 and 153 are amended as follows:

143. (amended) An editing system, for producing a resultant clip from a plurality of clips, comprising:

a plurality of modules for selectively performing at least one of editing, composing, or applying a special effect to said plurality of clips;

managing means for managing information pertaining to relations between the resultant clip and the plurality of clips, said information at least indicating from which of said plurality of clips said resultant clip is produced;

display means for displaying a table indicating individual resultant clips and said information pertaining to relations between each resultant clip and the plurality of clips, said table including rows and columns, each row including information for a respective resultant clip, a first column of said row including an identification code for said resultant clip, a second column of said row indicating least from which of said plurality of clips said resultant clip is produced; and

control means for controlling said plurality of modules based on said information managed by said managing means.

153. (amended) An editing method for producing a resultant clip from a plurality of clips, comprising the steps of:

selectively performing at least one of editing, composing, or applying a special effect to said plurality of clips;

managing information pertaining to relations between the resultant clip and the plurality of clips, said information at least indicating from which of said plurality of clips said resultant clip is produced;

displaying a table indicating individual resultant clips and said information pertaining to relations between each resultant clip and the plurality of clips, said table including rows and columns, each row including information for a respective resultant clip, a first column of said row including an identification code for said resultant clip, a second column of said row indicating from which of said plurality of clips said resultant clip is produced; and

controlling said editing, composing, or applying a special effect to said plurality of clips to be edited, based on said information.